

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 4, replace the paragraph beginning on line 19 and bridging pages 4 and 5 with the following amended paragraph:

--In Figs. 3 and 4, the ring-shaped (washer-shaped) flare stopper 31 is made of, for example, a phosphor bronze plate having a thickness of 0.03 mm by sheet metal stamping. The inner portion 31a of the flare stopper 31 is dented with respect to the outer portion thereof, effectively dividing flare stopper 31 into first and sections identified in Fig. 3, and the inner periphery 31a has the form of the side face of a circular truncated cone. After sheet metal stamping, the flare stopper 31 is painted matt black to prevent reflection. The flare stopper 31 is so fitted into the circular groove 30a of the spacer 30 that the inner periphery 31a thereof faces onto the third lens element 23. Thus, the inner periphery 31a is inclined with respect to an optical axis L of the taking lens unit 11.--